WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method for leading a user through a program procedure on a computer, the method comprising the steps of:

a) displaying a window to the user providing information regarding parameters of the program;

b) transferring the user from the window to a parameter input window associated with one of the parameters selected by the user to be set or changed, wherein the user provides information in the parameter input window to set or change the value of the parameter, the parameter input window being the only location where the parameters need to be set or changed.

2.   The method according to claim 1, wherein, prior step a), the user is provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path.

3.   The method according to claim 1, wherein

prior to step a), a choice window is displayed to the user, wherein the user is provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path; and

further wherein, when the user has selected the non-expert path, the window is an information window providing information regarding a parameter of the program.

4. The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of:

c)   displaying another information window providing information regarding another parameter of the program.

5.   The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of:

c)   repeating steps a) and b) for additional information windows in the non-expert path, each of the additional information windows providing information regarding different parameters of the program.

6. The method according to claim 4, wherein the step of displaying another information window comprises returning the user from the parameter input window to the information window associated with the parameter selected to be set or changed by the user and then forwarding the user to the another information window.

7. The method according to claim 3, wherein, when the user has selected the expert path, the window is an expert window listing any of the parameters of the program which may be modified by the user.

8. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of:

    c)   after the user provides the information in the parameter input window, returning the user to the expert window.

9. The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of:

    c)   repeating steps a) and b) for each of the parameters selected by the user from the expert window when the user has selected the expert path.

10. The method according to claim 7, further comprising:

    c)   after step b), transferring the user from the parameter input window to the information window associated with the parameter, thereby allowing the user to view the information regarding the parameter; and

    d)   returning the user to the parameter input window.

11. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of preventing the user from selecting to set or change a value of the parameter for at least one of the parameters.

12. The method according to claim 1, wherein a parameter must be modified.

13. A computer system for leading a user through a program procedure, the system comprising:

    a)   a workstation, including a display; and

    b)   a program for displaying a window to the user on the display providing information regarding parameters of the program; and whereupon in response to the user selecting to set or change a value of one of the parameters, the user is transferred from the window to a parameter input window associated with the selected parameter, wherein the user provides information in the parameter input

9   window to set or change the value of the parameter, the parameter input window

10   being the only location where the parameters need to be set or changed.

1   14.   The computer system according to claim 13, wherein prior to displaying the window

2   to the user, in the program, the user is provided with at least two interaction path options, a

3   first one of the interaction path options being a non-expert path and a second one of the

4   interaction path options being an expert path.

1   15.   The computer system according to claim 13, wherein

2   prior to displaying the window to the user, a choice window is displayed to the user

3   on the display, wherein in the program, the user is provided with at least two interaction path

4   options, a first one of the interaction path options being a non-expert path and a second one

5   of the interaction path options being an expert path; and

6   further wherein, when the user has selected the non-expert path, the window is an

7   information window providing information regarding a parameter of the program.

1   16.   The computer system according to claim 15, wherein another information window is

2   displayed on the display, providing information regarding another parameter of the program.

1   17.   The computer system according to claim 15, wherein in the program, the user is

2   provided with additional information windows in the non-expert path, each of the additional

3   information windows providing information regarding additional parameters of the program.

1   18.   The computer system according to claim 16, wherein in the program, the provision of

2   the additional information windows is accomplished by returning the user from the parameter

3   input window to the information window associated with the parameter selected to be set or

4   changed by the user and then forwarding the user to one of the additional information

5   windows.

1   19.   The computer system according to claim 15, wherein:

2   in the program, when the user has selected the expert path, the window is an expert

3   window listing any of the parameters of the program which may be modified by the user.

1   20.   The computer system according to claim 19, wherein, in the program, after the user

2   provides the information in the parameter input window, the user is returned to the expert

3   window.

1   21.   The computer system according to claim 19, wherein in the program, upon returning

2   the user to the expert window, the user may select other parameters from the expert window.

1   22.   The computer system according to claim 19, wherein in the program, the user is

2   transferred from the parameter input window to the information window associated with the

3   parameter, thereby allowing the user to view the information regarding the parameter; and

4   whereupon, the user is returned to the parameter input window.

1   23.   The computer system according to claim 13, wherein the program prevents the user

2   from selecting to set or change a value of the parameter for at least one of the parameters.

1   24.   The computer system according to claim 13, wherein a parameter must be modified.

1   25.   A computer program to be performed on or with the aid of a computer system for

2   leading a user through a program procedure on a computer, the computer program

3   comprising the steps of:

4   a) displaying a window to the user providing information regarding parameters of the

5   program;

6   b) transferring the user from the window to a parameter input window associated

7   with one of the parameters selected by the user to be set or changed, wherein the user

8   provides information in the parameter input window to set or change the value of the

9   parameter, the parameter input window being the only location where the parameters

10   need to be set or changed.

1   26.   The computer program according to claim 25, wherein, prior step a), the user is

2   provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options

3   being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path.

1   27.   The computer program according to claim 25, wherein

2   .   prior to step a), a choice window is displayed to the user, wherein the user is

3   provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options

4   being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path;

5 and

6   further wherein, when the user has selected the non-expert path, the window is an

7 information window providing information regarding a parameter of the program.

1   28. The computer program according to claim 27, further comprising the step of:

2   c)   displaying another information window providing information regarding

3   another parameter of the program.

1   29.   The computer program according to claim 27, further comprising the step of:

2   c)   repeating steps a) and b) for additional information windows in the non-

3   expert path, each of the additional information windows providing

4   information regarding different parameters of the program.

1   30.   The computer program according to claim 28, wherein the step of displaying another

2 information window comprises returning the user from the parameter input window to the

3 information window associated with the parameter selected to be set or changed by the user

4 and then forwarding the user to the another information window.

1   31.   The computer program according to claim 27, wherein, when the user has selected

2 the expert path, the window is an expert window listing any of the parameters of the program

3 which may be modified by the user.

1   32.   The computer program according to claim 31, further comprising the step of:

2   c)   after the user provides the information in the parameter input window,

3   returning the user to the expert window.

1   33.   The computer program according to claim 31, further comprising the step of:

2   c)   repeating steps a) and b) for each of the parameters selected by the user from

3   the expert window when the user has selected the expert path.

1   34.   The computer program according to claim 31, further comprising:

2   c)   after step b), transferring the user from the parameter input window to the

3   information window associated with the parameter, thereby allowing the user

4   to view the information regarding the parameter; and

5   d)   returning the user to the parameter input window.

35.　　The computer program according to claim 25, further comprising the step of preventing the user from selecting to set or change a value of the parameter for at least one of the parameters.

36.　　The computer program according to claim 25, wherein a parameter must be modified.

37.　　A computer-readable medium containing a program for performing the method of leading a user through a program procedure on a computer, comprising the steps of:

　　a) displaying a window to the user providing information regarding parameters of the program;

　　b) transferring the user from the window to a parameter input window associated with one of the parameters selected by the user to be set or changed, wherein the user provides information in the parameter input window to set or change the value of the parameter, the parameter input window being the only location where the parameters need to be set or changed.

38.　　The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, wherein, prior step a), the user is provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path.

39.　　The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, wherein

　　prior to step a), a choice window is displayed to the user, wherein the user is provided with at least two interaction path options, a first one of the interaction path options being a non-expert path and a second one of the interaction path options being an expert path; and

　　further wherein, when the user has selected the non-expert path, the window is an information window providing information regarding a parameter of the program.

40. The computer-readable medium according to claim 39, further comprising the step of:

　　c)　　displaying another information window providing information regarding another parameter of the program.

41.　　The computer-readable medium according to claim 39, further comprising the step

2   of:

3   c)   repeating steps a) and b) for additional information windows in the non-

4   expert path, each of the additional information windows providing

5   information regarding different parameters of the program.

1   42.   The computer-readable medium according to claim 40, wherein the step of

2   displaying another information window comprises returning the user from the parameter

3   input window to the information window associated with the parameter selected to be set or

4   changed by the user and then forwarding the user to the another information window.

1   43.   The computer-readable medium according to claim 39, wherein, when the user has

2   selected the expert path, the window is an expert window listing any of the parameters of the

3   program which may be modified by the user.

1   44. The computer-readable medium according to claim 43, further comprising the step of:

2   c)   after the user provides the information in the parameter input window,

3   returning the user to the expert window.

1   45.   The computer-readable medium according to claim 43, further comprising the step

2   of:

3   c)   repeating steps a) and b) for each of the parameters selected by the user from

4   the expert window when the user has selected the expert path.

1   46.   The computer-readable medium according to claim 43, further comprising:

2   c)   after step b), transferring the user from the parameter input window to the

3   information window associated with the parameter, thereby allowing the user

4   to view the information regarding the parameter; and

5   d)   returning the user to the parameter input window.

1   47.   The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, further comprising the step of

2   preventing the user from selecting to set or change a value of the parameter for at least one of

3   the parameters.

1   48.   The computer-readable medium according to claim 37, wherein a parameter must be

2   modified.